

SUNDAY, APRIL 28, 1895.

Subscription by Mail Post-Paid, DAILY, Per Month...... DAILY AND SUNDAY, Per Month....... WFEELY, Per Year .. tage to Foreign Countries added. THE SUN, New York city.

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J OCAL, NEWS.—The City and Buburban News Bureau of the United Parss and New Yonk Associated Phose Isat 21 to 29 Ans street. All information and docu-ments for public use instantly disseminated to the press of the whole country.

Justice White's Startling Idea of Justice.

Mr. Justice EDWARD D. WHITE of Louisiana, the recently appointed associate member of the United States Supreme Court, has a very queer conception of the principles that should govern the conduct of a conscientious, upright man. In giving his reasons for supporting the unconstitutional Income Tax law, he speaks as follows:

"Under the income tax laws which prevailed in the past for many years, and which covered every concelvable source of income, rentals from real estate, and everything else, vast sums were collected from the people of the United States. The decision here rendered announces that those sums were wrongfully taken, and thereby, it seems to me, creates a claim in equity and good conscience against the Government for an enormous amount of money.

"Thus, from the change of view by this court, it happens that an act of Congress, passed for the purpose of raising revenue, in strict conformity with the practice of the Government from the earliest time. and in accordance with the oft-repeated decisions of this court furnishes the occasion for creating a claim against the Government for hundreds of millions of dollars; I say 'creating a claim,' because if the Government be in good conscience bound to refund that which has been taken from the citizen in violation of the Constitution, although the technical right may have disappeared by lapse of time, or because the decisions of this court have misled the citizen to his grisvous injury, the equity endures, and will present itself to the conscience of the Government. This conesquence shows how necessary it is that the court should not overthrose its past decisions."

In other words, since the Government, in time past, has been sustained by the Supreme Court in collecting from the people vast sums in defiance of the Constitution and of natural justice, the court must go on sustaining the wrong, because a great deal of money might be required to right it! Is not this an argument that a thief might rest his case on ?

The Income Tax and the Doctrine of Stare Decisia

The dissenting opinion of Justice WHITE, in which Justice HARLAN concurs, was distributed on Friday. It upholds the income tax mainly on the ground of the alleged necessity of preserving the continuity and consistency of judicial decisions. That is to say, Justice WHITE would attribute a controlling authority to the doctrine of stare decisis. and he would declare the income tax to be not a direct tax in the meaning of the Constitution, for the reason that the Supreme Court of the United States has made such a declaration in times past. We cannot think that Justice WHITE's

opinion, so far as it is based upon this argument, will exercise much influence upon members of the bar or upon public opinion. The authority of the doctrine of stare decisis, stand by your past decisions, has been repeatedly rejected by the Federal Supreme Court and in American jurisprudence at large. The judicial history of this country, and of all other countries, is replete with memorable proofs of the liability of courts to err, and uent advantages of review. According to BISPHAM'S Digest, the Federal Supreme Court has reversed itself no fewer than thirty times in a hundred years. Especially is the propriety, nay the duty, of review. if not reversal, manifest, when the declaration challenged is known to have been originally a mere obiter dictum. Such was notoriously the assertion made in the opinion read on the decision of the "Carriage tax" case in 1796; the assertion that "direct tax" meant simply and exclusively "land tax" in the constitutional phrase no capitation or other direct tax shall be laid, except," &c. The case then before the court did not call for a definition or description of everything embraced by the term "direct tax." It was enough to decide that the term did not include a tax on car riages as property.

But if, under any circumstances, a mere obiter dictum, like that pronounced in the "Carriage case," would be a proper subject for review, it is preëminently so in the light of new evidence regarding the meaning attached to the term "direct tax" by the framers and adopters of the Constitution; evidence not presented, and perhaps not attainable, at the time when the decision in the "Carriage case" was made, and never since presented to the Supreme Court until it was set forth the other day in minute detail and with great cogency by Mr. CLAR-ENCE A. SEWARD, one of the counsel for the appellants against the present income tax. Mr. SEWARD directed the attention of the court to the fact that the words in the Constitution: "No capitation or other direct tax shall be levied, except," &c., are written words, selected deliberately and discussed after they were selected, anxiously and patiently by the several States; and that no question was ever raised, until the "Carriage case," as to what was meant by the term "direct taxes," or as to whether such phrase in the Constitution had a different interpretation from what it contemporane ously had when used in the States. He then raised the inquiry, which he answered in the negative, whether the States have ever given to the Federal judiciary the power to say that the language so selected and discussed was to have a more limited and restricted signification than the natural sense of the words as they were understood by those who used them.

How was the term, "direct taxes," under stood by those who used it in the Philadelphia Convention of 1787, and in the State Conventions which subsequently adopted the Federal Constitution ! For the purpose of furaishing a conclusive reply to this question, Mr. SEWARD made for the first time an ekhaustive examination of the State Constitutions and the legislation of the several States during the interval between the Declaration of Independence and the ac ceptance of our present Federal organic law. The result of this investigation is to that, prior to the adoption of the Constitution, the States of Vermont, Massachusetta, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Delaware, New Jersey. Virginia, and South | shade of any color by comparison with

Carolina assessed their citizens upon the profits from their professions, trades, and employments, and collected taxes thereon for the joint benefit of the States and of the general Government. In addition to these taxes upon income, nearly all the States imposed poll taxes, taxes on lands, on cattle of all kinds, and on various sorts of personal property. Now, by what general designation were all these taxes known to the people of the States when they were paying them? Were they regarded and described as "direct" or "indirect" taxes? To answer this question, Mr. Sew-ARD recurs to the only authentic witnesses to contemporary usage, namely, the members of the State Conventions called to discuss the proposed Federal Constitution, and time citizens of the several States. By means of such testimony the fact is established that all the taxes which the people were paying in 1787 were, according to their common understanding as expressed in their Conventions, or afterward in the writings of those who had been constituents of one or another State at the time, direct taxes, and, further, that such direct taxes were paid out of income, and were so paid for the support of the Federal as well as of the State Governments. True, they were collected in 1787 by State officers; but how, asks Mr. SEWARD, can the fact that it is now proposed to collect them out of income by Federal officers, change the income tax from the direct tax, which it was in 1787 into an indirect tax in 1895?

But was the practical interpretation given to the words "direct taxes" by the people and the laws of the several States, in any way modified by the proceedings of the Philadelphia Convention, which framed the Constitution? Mr. SEWARD examined care fully those proceedings, as they are reported by Elliot and by Madison, and he demonstrated that the interpretation contempora neously given by the people or the laws of the several States to the words "direct taxes," was not limited or restricted by any of the proceedings of the Philadelphia Convention. Still another question, however, may be raised, to wit, was what has been shown

to be true of the Philadelphia Convention. equally true of the State Conventions subsequently called for the purpose of accepting or rejecting the proposed Federal organic law? Here again Mr. SEWARD recurs to the only authentic testimony, namely, the debates in the State Conventions, as they are reported by ELLIOT; and he conclusively establishes the fact that the people as represented by their delegates to the State Conventions called to adopt the Federal Constitution, did not limit the phrase "direct taxes" to a tax on land only. It is incontestably proved that

the delegates to the State Conventions understood that by the "direct taxes" which the Constitution gave Congress the power to levy and collect, was meant not taxes on ands only, but all such taxes as the States were then levying and collecting, under the name of "direct taxes," as exclusive of duties and imposts on exports and imports.

It follows from the new and decisive evi-

dence collected by Mr. SEWARD and laid by him before the court, that an income tax as direct tax existed long before the Constitution; that it existed in some of the States after the Constitution was adopted; and exists in one of the States until the present day. It was as well recognized in the various ocalities comprehended in the Union as any other tax. It was known and called a direct tax, as one of the taxes imposed by the States. With equal clearness did the argument of Mr. SEWARD bring out the indisputable truth that when the words 'direct taxes" were introduced into the Constitution, they were used in their natural sense, and are to be taken, according to the rule laid down by Chief Justice MARSHALL for the interpretation of diction, "in their natural and obvious sense." It is not a "natural and obvious sense" to reject from the taxes which the people were paying when the words were used, all of such taxes except a tax on land and to limit and restrict the words which they did use to that individual tax. The people have never assented to such a re

striction in any Convention An income tax is clearly a direct tax and must, in order to be constitutionally exacted, be apportioned and collected as the Constitution prescribes. That is to say, such apportionment must be made accord ing to population.

The Government and a Colo Standard.

The institution known as the National Academy of Sciences had its charter from the Federal Government in 1863. The present membership is about ninety, and it includes some of the most distinguished men of science in the United States, astronomers, botanists, chemists, and so on through the entire alphabet of special research. While it would be too much to say that not to be a member of the Academy is to lack the full recognition due to acknowledged eminence, it is nevertheless true that the body is repre sentative, and that its opinions and conclusions carry weight.

The relation of the National Academy of Sciences to the Government of the United States is defined in the act of incorporation. Whenever any department of the Government shall call upon the Academy "to investigate, examine, experiment, and report upon any subject of science or art," the cost of such investigation shall be paid from the Treasury, "but the Academy shall receive no compensation whatever for any services to the Government of the United States." The link is slender, but sufficient. We are not informed as to what special subjects of science and art have been officially referred by the Government to the Academy of Sciences during the thirty years of its existence; or, indeed whether it has ever been called upon to serve the purpose contemplated in this provision of the law incorporating it.

About two years ago Messrs. FUNE & WAGNALLS, the proprietors of a useful dictionary recently published, asked the Department of the Interior to set the National Academy of Sciences at work for the public benefit. In a communication addressed to WILLIAM T. HARRIS, the Commissioner of Education, these gentlemen explained the desirability of establishing by authoritative process a color standard for practical use in he arts and industries of the country. Their attention had been called to the sub ject during the preparation of the article on 'color" for their new dictionary; and the application which they made to the department manifestly proceeded from disinterested motives, as they neither tried to advertise their dictionary in this way nor to procure any action on the part of the Government that would benefit them more

then any other citizens. What is meant by a conventional standard of color is this, broadly stated: An official spectrum, with the limits of the six standard colors arbitrarily defined and exactly scaled, so that it will be possible to designate any

this scale. The absolute red, for example, or the absolute blue or yellow, having been conventionally located in the spectrum, variations would be exactly indicated by so many points plus or minus on the scale. There exists in France such a standard, originally constructed by MICHEL EUGENE CHEVREUL, the celebrated chemist, for use at the Sevres porcelain factory and at the Gobelins. The spectrum is shown on a long porcelain slab, accurately scaled. By this standard, red 245, for instance, is always the same thing, and cloth, wall paper, or any other article colored red 245, may be ordered through the mails by mercly mentioning the figures. The numberless uses and conveniences aris ing from the establishment of such other distinguished men who were at the a standard by our Government will occur readily to the mind. There are various scales of color in limited use here already, but they lack the general acceptance and the authority which an official standard would have, if determined by the process suggested by Messra, FUNK & WAGNALLS. From the great manufacturer of textiles to the country woman ordering yarn or floss silk from the city shop, nearly everybody would have occasion at some time to make practical use of the garment color scale.

The letter of Messrs. FUNE & WAGNALLS to the Commissioner of Education was referred by him to the Hon. HOER SMITH, with a recommendation that the question be submitted to the National Academy. "The subject," wrote Prof. HARRIS, "is undoubtedly an important one from a scientific, educational, and industrial point of view. Such a standard as would doubtless be prepared under the auspices of the National Academy by the most skilful experts in the use of the spectroscope would be as satisfactory as any that could be devised, and would doubtless be accepted as authoritative in the arts and the trades. The Department of the Interior thereupon referred the subject to Prof. O. C. MARSH, the President of the National Academy. who considered it for a month and then replied as follows to the Hon. HOKE SMITH:

"I regret that I have not been able to reply more promptly to this communication, but the request it contained required careful consideration, (1) as it did not originate in a department of the Government, to which alone the services of the National Academy of Sciences are siways available, in accordance with its charter; (2) as the question itself was one upon which I wished to obtain the opinion of those especially

amiliar with the subject.
"The result of my inquiry, stated briefly, is that it would require a long and expensive investigation to obtain the data upon which an authoritative standard of color could alone be based, and the results of such investigation might even then be of very limited value Standards of color sufficient for practical purpose are already in use

Such being the case, it seems to me hardly advisa ble to appoint a committee of the National Academy to consider the question, but this could be done if y

should deem it necessary." With all respect to Prof. MARSH and the National Academy of Sciences, this seems like throwing cold water on a very useful and interesting project. We should suppose that the National Academy would jump at the chance to fulfil the obligations of its charter, and at the same time erect a monument to its own intelligent energy and public usefulness.

Of the Federal Government's power under the Constitution to appropriate money for the determination of a color standard, there is not the slightest doubt. Section 8 of Article I. authorizes Congress "to coin money, regulate the value thereof, and fix the standard of weights and measures;" and this is as clearly a measure as if it were a measure of length or of volume. If all of the educational and philanthropic enterprises undertaken by the Federal Government in these days of naternalism were as plainly within the constitutional limits prescribed, the country might congratulate itself. We think the Hon. HOKE SMITH ought to request the Academy to go ahead with the color standard.

A Cover for Objectionable Legislation. So much of our law in this State is now in the form of codes that it has become too easy to procure the enactment of far-reach-

ing and objectionable measures by the Legislature, under the guise of code amendments, which would not get through so readily as independent statutes with names In a fresh batch of bills from Albany, for

example, we find an innocent-looking "Act to amend section 1,286 of the Code of Civil Procedure relating to the entry of judgment." The title conveys the idea that the subject matter is the mode by which the clerk of a court is to make formal record of a judgment in his official books. There is not the shadow of a suggestion that the main purpose of the bill is to cure every defect or irregularity that may exist in any judgment heretofore filed in the office of the clerk of a court of record in this State. Such, however, is the real object, beyond any doubt, as is manifest from this extract:

"Notwithstanding any incompleteness, imperfetion, defect, or irregularity in, or in respect of, the entry of any interiocutory or final judgment hereto-fore filed in the office of the clerk for entry, such judgmen: shall, from and after the day when this amended section shall take effect, be deemed to have been in all respects properly and regularly entered at the time when it was filed, or purports to have been entered, and the entry thereof shall not be questioned for any cause whatsoever."

The desire of a particular person to avoid the effect of a known irregularity in a judgment in his favor is the only reasonable explanation which occurs to us for the introduction and approval by the Assembly Committee on Codes of such an amendment as this. It is of so sweeping a character that it is difficult to say what injury it may not occasion to the rights of other litigants. And if all defects and irregularities in the entry of judgments in the past are to be condoned and overlooked, why not declare at once and in advance that all judgments which any one may hereafter attempt to enter shall be above and beyond question? Special legislation like this, in the shape of a general law, is dangerous and discredit able where its true purpose is sought to be concealed, and where its operation, so far as it may be general, will be objectionable.

Widows as Heirs at Law. The present Legislature at Albany has

contrived to do a great deal for the New Woman, without saying much about what was thus accomplished in that direction. Probably very few of the thousands of

landowners in this State have any idea that the laws of descent have just been changed so that a man's widow is to be entitled to share with his lineal descendants in inheriting the lands which he does not dispose of by will; and so that the widow is to take all of such lands, if he leaves no lineal descendants living, in preference to his father, mother, and collateral relatives, who would take to the exclusion of the widow under the statutes now in force.

Such will be the effect of an act amending the Revised Statutes in regard to dower and descent which was recently approved by the Governor, and which will go into operation on Jan. 1, 1896.

This amendment does not deprive a widow of her right of dower; but it gives her the privilege of choosing whether she will take as dowress or take as heir. As dowress she will be entitled to the use for life of one third of all the real estate which her husband has owned during marriage. As helr she will be entitled to the absolute ownership of a share in the undevised real estate. which her husband owned at the time of his death if he left lineal descendants, and to

the whole of such real estate if he left none. The portion which a widow may inherit under the new law, will depend not only upon the number of children but on the number who survive the husband. The statute says that "if he leaves lineal descendants living, all of equal degrees of consanguinity, she shall inherit a like share as each of such descendants; if he leaves descendants entitled to share, of unequal degrees of consanguinity, she shall inherit a like share as the descendant living of nearest degree of consanguinity to the intestate." Under this rule if the husband left widow, one child, and two grandchildren, the offspring of a deceased child, the widow would take one-third of his undevised lands, the child one-third, and the two grandchildren the remaining third. On the other hand, if both children of the husband were dead, each leaving two children, so that the lineal descendants living were four grandchildren of the husband, his lands would descend in five shares, one-fifth to each

grandchild and one-fifth to the widow. This enactment effects one of the most mportant changes in our substantive law

In British Hands.

which have been made in many years.

The town of Corinto has been occupied by British troops, landed from the fleet of Admiral Stephenson in the harbor.

This is the outcome of a controversy in which the helplessness and humiliation of Nicaragua are hardly more striking than the barrenness thus far of American intervention, if indeed that intervention has been attempted at all. England has not bated a jot from the ultimatum delivered by Commander STOKES to the Government at Managua. The news up to this writing indicates that she has not added one hour to the three days of grace, or thus far taken one item from the terms imposed. Before landing, Admiral STEPHENSON notified the Nicaraguan commander at Corinto of his desire "that the military guard under your orders shall be disarmed, and that their arms, with the Krupp guns and ammunition, shall be handed over to Capt. FREDERICK TRENCH." There was no effort to lighten the blow.

As for the figure cut by our diplomats up to this time, it can hardly be called briliant. Either no effort at all was made by them to interpose good offices to avert this result, or if any was made, it was repulsed and rejected. Either horn of the dilemma is unpleasant, but it is to be hoped that evidence may still be shown of an attempt to help the little republic in its distress, rather than of indifference to it, on the theory that it is no affair of ours.

The remainder of the story may perhaps be forecast without much difficulty. The money demanded by Great Britain will resumably in time be paid. Then Admiral STEPHENSON'S forces will reëmbark, the people who have fled from Corinto will ome back, the telephone and telegraph lines will be restored, the troops will march back from the mainland, and British occupation will be over. And next it will be pointed out, in some quarters, that this result has shown that there was nothing objectionable, after all, in that occupation.

But it will have shown nothing of the ort. France in her claim upon San Domingo and Germany in her claim upon Venezuela have now a precedent for military occupations and seizures. England herself has a precedent for future cases that may involve far more than this petty fine levied by her upon Nicaragua.

Nor is it true that we have simply a choice between non-interference in such matters and guaranteeing the payment of all just claims made upon American republics. The immediate question for us in England's demand upon Nicaragua concerns not its jus | meanest of all the scrubs in the car was a tice, but her settlement of it by the law of the stronger, and the collection of her demands by an armed occupation of territory Surely, it would have been wise and fortunate statesmanship for our Government to have averted such a result, and by dissuasion and the seasonable interposition of good offices, to have directed the affair into another course.

Whence Came the Scals?

Most of the geographical works of Rusda speak of Lake Baikal in Siberia as the largest fresh-water lake in the world, just as if the Russians had never heard of our Lake Superior, or of two African lakes, that certainly cover more ground than Baikal. All geographers admit, however, that this inland sea is, for several reasons, one of the most remarkable of lakes. One of these reasons has to do with a zoölogical puzzle.

Whence came the seals that disport themelves in the waters of Lake Baikal is a conundrum that no one has yet satisfactorily answered. Reclus is one of the latest to ask the question, and he gives it up. The only thing distinctive about them appears o be their scientific name; for though Latin appellation has been provided for them, it is impossible in any way to distinguish them from the fætida, the species of seal that was formerly so abundant in the salt vaters around Spitzbergen. Did these seals of Lake Baikal originally pertain to oceanic fauna, and are they, in fact, a relic of the sea life that flourished many ages ago, when much that now is Asia was at the bottom of the sea? This theory has been advanced, and it may be the solution of the mystery. In the ocean itself deep-sea investigators find forms of life to-day that seem decidedly out of place. There are, for instance, deer ubmarine valleys near the British islands where live marine animals unlike any others in the same latitude, which resemble only those that are found much further north, as on the coast of Norway. How came they in these southern waters? It is not known, unless it be that in the far colder epoch of the glacial period, the habitat of these northern animals was extended far to the south; and when the present climatic conditions came to prevail they could only live in southern waters in the deeper and colder parts of the sea, where they still perpetuate forms of life that otherwise are found only in higher latitudes.

So far as we can judge from the crop reports sent to us by the Department of Agriculture, cotton has been planted as extensively this onth in most of the cotton-growing States as if there never had been any cry of "Reduce the In South Carolina the planting, we are told, has been rushed; in Alabama it wa progressing rapidly last week; in Mississippi it was near to completion; in Georgia it was active; in Arkansas and North Carolina it was general; in Texas it had been delayed by dry weather, and only in Louisians was it about a half less than usual. We should suppose that the crop of the year would be about as large as that of any previous year, with good luck,

The truth is that the cotton planters have been very much encouraged by the improved

endition of the market, and by the pros pects of it. A good many of them also have adopted better devices for the promotion of the growth of the staple and for the economizing of expense. The planters like the old industry which has been a profitable one for generations and from which it has been impossible to detach them, even in those years when the price has ruled low, and when there has been fear that it

would fall to five cents. It is probably well that the planting of the month has been so large. There is reason for believing that the yield of the year will be marketed at paying prices.

Senator CLARENCE LEXOW of the Sixteenth Senatorial district and of the city of Nev York has, at sundry times during the past three months, led his friends and enemies to suppose that there is something in him, and that he possesses more staying power, more of that kind of ability which enables a politician to resist importunities, threats, buildozing, and wumpery, than he was credited with, even by the straightout Republicans, when the sessio of the Legislature began in January last. He might have a future in politics, if he were able to retain his principal bones, more especially the back bone.

The Police Reorganization bill is un-American and un-Republican. It denies to the police the constitutional right of any accused man to appeal to the courts.—Senator Cookestata.

What of that? It is a Reform measure. The

Committee of 70 want it. Rush it through!

Three curious questions are asked in the titles of three articles in the May number of that excellent magazine, the Forum. We Discourage Inventors?" "Can We Revive the Olympic Games?" and "Have We Equality of Opportunity?" It would not be of any use to try to discourage inventors, for no power upon earth can do it. We can't revive the Olympic games without resorting to the nude. There cannot be equality of opportunity until there is similarity of genius.

But, anyhow, we shall carefully read the artt. cles of the three able writers, Prof. THURSTON, Prof. SHOREY, and Col. WRIGHT. We are con fident that they will throw new light upon the interesting questions.

Truly, we do not see how it is possible to abolish sparking in those colleges to which stu-dents of both sexes are admitted. The thing can be carried on in a hundred subtle ways which the old chaps of the faculty can never discover, even by wearing their spectacles, watching with a steady eye, listening for every word, and looking in all directions at once. The strategy of it beats that of Napoleon. It needs not speech, not until it is approaching its ral conclusion, and even then it is, alas! often speechless.

Hence we cannot look hopefully for the success of the anti-sparking measures adopted by the faculty of Mount Union College, an Ohio coeducational institution. President Marsu has reprimanded several young men and young women who had aroused his suspicion that they were sparkers; but the chances are that this will only add fuel to the flame. If he were to set up whipping post, it would add more yet; and if he were to expel the suspects, what would happen next? Look at ROMEO and JULIET, besides

What is to be done about it we can't see, unless President Mansa should raise a high fence between the gallants and their sweethearts, if that would do any good. But, after all, is there any better place for sparking than a college?

BILL COOK, the red-handed blackmailer of the Indian Territory and the meanest man of his kind alive, escaped the gallows because the crime of murder could not be legally fastened upon him. For the rest of his life, unless he live to be nearly 100 years old, he will be a resident of this State, a boarder in the Albany penitentiary, where, for the first time since his birth, he will earn his living by hard labor. The mean wretch, who is also a coward and an assailant of helpless women, arrived in Albany, N. Y., under guard, shackled, in a prison car, lined with sheet iron and heavily barred. These precautions were not ecessary in the case of Cook, who could have been brought along by the darky who captured him; but they were needed because of the other inmates of the car, twenty of them, including some of the worst villains, maranders, and swindlers who ever infested the Indian Territory. It will be a relief to plenty of honest Indians and white folks to know that the occupants of that wheeled prison are a thousand miles away from them, safely lodged in a penitentiary from which there is no escape. We do not know when another car load of such passengers ever entered this State. The very toughest and Vestern lawver

No Stable Currency.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUS-Sir: Is a stable cur ble under a popular Governm NEW YORK, April 25, 1895. J. F. WH.BUR.

A currency cannot be absolutely stable under any Government. Any commodity chosen as a common medium of exchange, whether gold. sliver, wheat, or jackknives, is bound to vary in value from year to year, and no power within man's control can prevent it. Invention is probably the most potent factor in causing such variations. But while all great commodities, such as metals, agricultural products, manufactures, and labor, are essentially unstable in their value, and have changed continually during the recent period of financial agitation, gold has changed the least of all. As between gold and silver, the two money metals as they are called, gold has changed incomparably less and has been a correspondingly fairer medium of exchange or standard of value

Gold has made, on the whole, the fairest and the most stable currency possible to procure and it constitutes the standard currency of this popular Government to-day, after an uninterrupted domination for sixty years.

An Appeal for Free Cuba.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Wishing that every lover of the independence of the American world-not yet completed while the flag of a European nation floats over one inch o Cuban soll-will contribute to free America of Europe's control, and that this contribution will come from every corner of our country, I would be greatly obliged if you would publis

will come from every corner of our country, I would be greatly obliged if you would publish this, my second carnest appeal of a woman born in this, our glorious republic, to every son and daughter of our land, to contribute to build a new American nation with the name of Cuba. She is fighting in 1895 for the same rights and privileges that we fought for in 1776, and the same sympathy and resources that we then had from every lover of our cause we must tender now to those that in unfortunate Cuba fight bravely to buy with blood the rights and liberty of an over-oupressed neople.

It is not enough for us in these critical moments to hold meetings of sympathy; we must do more than that. If we had had only sympathy to fight with in our flevolution for independence, not only would we to-day be without a United States of America, the nation of nations, of which we are proud clitzens, but we would still be oasying tribute for the right of living in our own homes, and in our own land. I entreat every man and woman to express in a material way his or her love for liberty, and thus help break the last link of that iron chain with which Spain for centuries has tied Cuba to theisnominious post of slavery, at the same time effacing from the proud forsehad of our own country the shameful stain of having allowed a European master forso long a time to raise his lash and let it fall upon an American people. Our present Government will please take notice.

We must not forget that when Nanoleon I. was once asked what was necessary to make war, his reply was: "Only three things—money, money, and money." Let us inspire ourselves with his Napoleonic answer, and, according to our resources, give Cuba the three things with which to continue her fight for independence, and in the very near future the torch of our statue of Liberty will shed its rays over a new, happy, and independent republic of the American world—the republic of Cuba. Yours respectfully,

An Error Corrected TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: If your

spondent, "Dictionary," will look again in his "Stand ard Dictionary" he will find autonym correctly de ree separate headings:

"1. One's own name, as distinguished from a pas donym: also a work published under the author's own name.

"E Franci. A people's name for themselves; opposed to exthronym."

"S. (Rare) A bomonym."

It is run in under the combining form, suite.

Dictronary Sympary.

CONTINENTAL UNION.

The Assembly's Patriotic Offer to Canad —Its Reception by Canadian Tortes To Come Up in the Senate on Wednesday TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The folowing resolution was adopted by the Assembly at Albany on Wednesday last, without a single

dissenting vote: Whereas, We believe that the political union of the two great English-speaking communities who now occupy and control North America will delicer the continent from danger of war, and securely dedicate it to peaceful industry and progress, lessen the per capita cost of government and defence, insure the rapid development of its boundless natural resources, enlarge its domestic and foreign commerce, unite all interests in creating a systematic development of its means of internal communication with the by rail and water East and West, protect and preserve its wealth, resources, privileges, and opportu ties as the undisputed heritage of all, immensely a to its influence, prestige, and power, promote, tend, and perpetuate government by the people, and remove forever the causes most likely to seriously disturb cordial relations and kindly intercourse with the motherland; therefore be it

Resolved. That we invite the Canadian people to cast in their lot with their own continent, and assure them that they shall have all the continent can give them. We will respect their freedom of action, and welcom them when they desire it into an equal and honorable

The preamble and resolution are an open, honorable, frank, manly, sincere, and emphatic offer of union between the United States and Canada, for better or for worse, for all time. The resolution expresses the far and clear

foresight, broad and generous patriotism, ma-

ture judgment and lofty aspirations of Prof.

Goldwin Smith of Toronto, the first President of the Continental Union League of Ontario. The preamble recites the benefits, opportunities, privileges, and blessings which will follow and be secured to both of the high contracting parties from an honorable and permanent unfor The proposition is made in terms which express respect, good will, equality of at tion, and a de sire for perpetual identity. The offer is to share all the continent can give equally. A hasty an swer is not even suggested. That ample time will be taken for investigation, serious and thoughtful consideration of the proposition, is clearly assumed. No more generous and hon

There is not an intimation of force, intrigue, or purchase. The invitation is addressed to the intelligence and aspirations of the Canadian people-to the

orable proposal was ever made by one great free

community with boundless wealth and re-

sources to another in the history of the world.

head and the heart. The reasons given for desiring the union ar made as public as the proposal. Nothing is withheld. No unworthy suggestion is made. No sordid, selfish, or ungenerous motives are appealed to. No unboly ambitions are aroused excited, or prompted. The object of the union is to secure the highest good of two great and free communities and their posterity forever. and through their wellbeing to bless, uplift, and glorify humanity.

If the declarations in the preamble are true the union will yield beneficent fruits to those entering into it and to millions yet unborn. If they are not true, it rests with those who opport the union to prove them untrue or forever hold their peace. Immediately after the resolution had been

adopted by the Assembly it was telegraphed to Ottawa, and the Premier of Canada, Sir Mackengie Bowell, promptly made answer to it. Ho did not (because he could not) attempt to disprove the validity of a single one of the declaration made in the preamble, nor did he deny or attempt to deny that the spirit of the resolution was generous and honorable. He contented himself by declaring that there were no dynamiters or Anarchists in Canada, that they had a better banking system than ours, and that they were British, and he thought they intended to remain so. The weakness of his reply makes clearly manifest the high character of the pre amble and resolution. It should not be forgot ten that Sir Mackenzie Bowell is the head of the Orange Association of Ontario, the bitterest and most malignant anti-republican, anti-demo cratic association upon this continent. Sir Mackenzie Bowell and his supporters in the Orange Association believe in the divine right of kings, or, in other words, the divine right of a small minority to govern the great majority in the interest of the small minority.

He expressed the opinion that there was no sentiment in Canada favorable to political union with the United States. The fact that one fourth of all living native-born Canadians are citizens of this republic indicates that more than 1,000,000 of them were so intently in favor of political union that they were unwilling to wait in Canada until it could be consummated. There are more than 50,000,000 of native-born Americans in this republic; if 12,500,000 of them had become citizens of Canfairly intelligent American attempt to deny that there was a strong feeling in this country

in favor of political union with Canada? Some years ago a "commercial union" ar rangement was proposed by Mr. Erastus Wiman and his friends in Canada. It was a purely commercial marriage for a fixed term of years. The effect upon the industries of Canada would have been as destructive and disastrous as an unholy marriage is to the woman who yields herself up to it.

Worse still, the Liberal party of Canada nominally led by Wilfred Laurier, but actually controlled by Sir Arthur Mowat, a Scotch Tory, and Sir Richard Cartright, a united empire "loyalist" Tory, sailing under the Liberal flag. proposes an "unrestricted reciprocity marriage," to be dissolved at pleasure by either party.

A commercial union for ten years is quite bad enough, but a union to be dissolved at pleasure by either party is infinitely worse, unworthy of moment's serious consideration by either party. The great majority of all high-minded Canadians demand a political union for all time under one flag, or nothing.

As a rule, those who oppose union are those who are in control of the Canadian Treasury and estate, or hope to obtain possession of them. They are opponents for revenue only. Judge S. E. Baldwin of Connecticut predicted

in 1893 "that sooner or later the continent of North America, with Hawaii on the west and all the islands on the cast as satellites to s planet, will come under the American flag." He who secures its consummation will rank in history with Washington and Lincoln as a benefactor of his race.

FRANCIS WAYLAND GLEN.

Purgatory and the Rev. Madison C. Peters. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SU: The Rev. Madison C. Peters is reported as saying in his ast Sunday's sermon: "The doctrine of the Papists in regard to purgatory was not known until more than one thousand years after Christ came on earth. Such doctrine was first lutroduced by Pope Hildebrand in 1073,"

Every student of the history of theology knows that this statement of Mr. Peters is absolutely false. Even John Calvin in his tutes," book third, chapters 5 and 10, admits that the dectrine of purgatory was believed in the third century; and St. Augustine in his work on "Heresles," written in the early part of the on "Heresies," written in the carly part of the fifth century, tells us that in the fourth century "there was a heretic named Ærius who denied the utility of prayers or masses for the dead." Therefore the doctrine of purgatory most have been accepted by the Church at that time. These two authorities are enough against so light a weight as Madison Peters.

Although Father Young, the Paulist, in a clever book has refuted his calumnics against

weight as Madison Peters.

Although Father Young, the Paulist, in a clever book has refuted his calumnies against Catholic countries, and although Mgr. Farley, in the Forum, has exposed his falsehoods about the tenure of Catholic church property in New York, Mr. Peters has not applogized or rotracted. He is a conspicuous instance of shameless and egregious inporance and malicious mened. He is a conspicuous instance of shameless and egregious ignorance and malicious mendacity; and if he does not change his habits of preaching he will go further than purgatory and fare worse.

HENRY A. BRANN, D. D.,
New YORK, April 26,

Chicago's Willard Fountain

CHICAGO, April 27,-Willard fountain, which was presented to the city by the children of the world's W. C. T. U., was unveiled and dedicated to-day. The fountain is situated at the Monroe street entrance to the W. C. T. U. Temple and cost \$20,000. More than 300,000 children, in Europe and America, contributed to the fountain fund.

If you have a worrying cough, or any lung or throat trouble, use at once Dr. D. Jayne's Expectorant, and son't parloy with what may prove to be a dangerous condition. Adm.

WHAT IS GOING ON IN SOCIETY.

The national capital was quite en fête on Monday for the marriage of the Hon. George Curson and Miss Mary Leiter. St. John's Church was packed, and every avenue and street leading to it filled with an excited throng, all struggling to get a glimpse of the regal-looking bride. who was handsomer on her wedding day than any royal princess that this generation has seen, and for whom the sides of the awning were raised as she passed from the church to her carriage that outsiders might admire her in the bravery of her bridal attire. But it was at the moment that she turned from the altar that the effect of her beauty, set off by tiara, neck. lace, and many stars of diamonds, was most striking, as at that moment the sun caught the jewels and set them ablaze with brilliancy. Ca her progress down the aisle she stopped and ex-tended her hand to her mother, and was, from first to last of the somewhat trying ordeat, a most gracious and interesting bride.

Nor was the bridegroom neglected, for, without being handsome, he is distinguished look. ing, and quite fulfils the description given of him in the well-known Balliol doggerel, "My name is George Nathaniel Curzon; I am a most superior person," and superior he most decidedly is, to an extent far beyond what was ascribed to him in his college days. He figures already in the political and literary world of England, and gives promise of still greater distinction in days to come All the great world of fashion and importance

in Washington was present in the church, and lewels flashed from women's gowns and house nets and from orders and decorations wern by foreign diplomats. Mrs. Cleveland was not looking her best and had evidently suffered a disappointment at the hands of her milliner, as her costume lacked its usual style and freshness. Mrs. S. S. Howland attracted much attention in a gown of pink chiffon and lace, with profusion of pearls and diamonds. Mrs. Donald Cameron and Miss Rachel Cameron were among the handsomest of the Washington contingent in black hats and light gray gowns. Among the New Yorkers were Mr. and Mrs. Van Rensselaer Cruger, Mrs. Buchanan Winthrop, in black satin and lilae; Miss Amy Townsend, Mrs. Douglas Robinson, and Miss

The newly married couple spent the first days f their honeymoon at the country place of Mr. John R. McLean and were expected to sail yes-

On the day after the Washington wedding one f the most picturesque marriage ceremonials that has been seen in New York for many years was celebrated in St. George's Church at the union of Mr. Henry Casimir De Rham and Miss Georgie Berryman. The church, which is a very plain and old-fashioned one, was transformed into a bower of beauty by arches formed of lilles spanning the aisles, and a brilliant scarlet blossom and a profusion of palms and plants banking the church. The bride was very lovely in her satin and point lace, and the bridesmaids were a striking group in gowns of deepest Rose du Barry pink, almost approaching cherry color, and large leghorn hats.

It was interesting to watch the congregation as they assembled—the solid respectability supported by wealth and ancestry, which filed into the pews set aside for the De Rham connection. and the flutter of youth, beauty, and fashion which clustered around Mrs. Berryman and her venerable aunt, Mrs. Dore, on the opposite side f the aisle. Conspicuous in the front ranks were the charming cousins, Mrs. Lorillard Spencer, looking as picturesque as in her girlish days in a costume entirely of white with a road-brimmed Gainsborough hat, and Mrs. Egerton L. Winthrop, Jr., in gray, with trimmings of spangled lace and ribbons of the same deep pink that the bridesmalds wore, which

shade of color was very becoming to her. In other pews near by were Mrs. Albert Stevens, quite radiant in black and white; Mrs. Duncan Elliott, Mrs. Thomas Howard, and sitting side by side Mrs. Henry Sloane and Mrs. Carley Havemeyer in very similar costumes of gray silk with spangled bodices and black toques with feathers. As a general thing, however, the ladies' heads were topped with flower gardens, and heliotrope, violets, roses, with here and there a scarlet poppy standing very crectwere more conspicuous than large hats with plumes. It was the first spring display of beauty clad in fashion's array, and gave the impression to the thoughtful onlooker that money must be flowing in upon fathers and husbands like the falls of Niagara, so rich, costly, and showy were the gowns and bonnets worn. It was a pretty sight, however, and unquestionably the finest that New York has seen for years.

There are but two days more for April weddings, and to-morrow will be celebrated that of Mr. Frederick Foster Carey and Miss Madeline Lewis, at Trinity Chapel, and on Tuesday Mrs. Katharine Cowdin Griswold will be married

The most recently announced engagement i that of Miss Lulu Robb, daughter of Mr. J. Hampden Robb, to Goodhue Livingston, son of the late Robert Livingston, and brother of Edward De Peyster and Robert R. Livingston. Other engagements made known of late are Miss Rebecca McCoun's, great-granddaughter of the late Chancellor McCoun, and niece of Miss Bessie Marbury, to Mr. Leonard Hicks of Roslyn, Long Island: Miss Alice Proble Tucker's to Mr. M. F. H. De Haas, the well-known marine artist, and Mr. Van Rensselaer Crosby's, only son of Col. Schuyler Crosby, who married Miss Van Rensselaer of Albany, to Mias Rita Greev

of Boston, sister of Mrs. Pierpont Morgan, Jr. Nature's surprise party of summer heat and springtime verdure has brought great enjoyment to those who were confiding enough to engage the Pioneer coach when chilling blasts were blowing and the trees waved their naked branches deflantly on those who ventured even upon a turn in Central Park. During the last few days, when Mrs. William Sloane, Miss Turnure, and Mrs. Delancey Kane have taken out parties, zephyrs as soft as midsummer's have prevailed, and the rich green of the grassgrown roads and lawns, the delicate verdure of trees and shrubs, and the bursting blossoms of the pear and apple have been most refreshing to the senses By Saturday next, when the bicycle tea is to be held at Claremont, under the supervision of Mrs. Ladenburg, Mrs. Roche, Mrs. Egerton L. Winthrop, Jr., Mrs. Cooper Hewitt. and other well-known ladies, for the benefit of a useful charity, the river and its banks will be in full beauty, and should the day be the it

will be a most charming entertainment. The "Twelfth Night Festival" at Carnegie Hall on Thursday was a social and financial success. It suffered from the excessive heat of the afternoon, which would have made the music of the spheres difficult to enjoy, and which seemed to have rather a paralyzing effect upon audience and performers. Mr. Plançon's sing-ing, however, awakened thunders of applause, and he most good-naturedly responded to two encores, and sang his favorite "Two Grenadiers," in a spirited manner. It was the great basso's last appearance, as he salled for home

yesterday in the French steamer. The big liners which have recently come into port have brought back a large number of those who went abroad a few months ago, among them Mr. and Mrs. John Jacob Astor. Mr. and Mrs. Ogden Mills, whose departure for the other side was announced on Wednesday last, have been obliged to postpone their trip on account of an epidemic among their children. The return of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick W. and Mr. George Vanderbilt is looked for this week or next, and the clans will soon be gathering for the annual

emigration to Newport and Lenox. In the mean time there is a good deal still to be seen and done in town. It would be difficult to do justice to the loan exhibition in one visit. There are studies in laces, fans, porcelains, old silver, historic snuff boxes, carved ivories, and enamels. The Washington relics are most in teresting, and come from the collection of Mr. William F. Havemeyer, It does not appear, however, that the washing lists of the Father of his Country or his bills for table supplies differ very much from those of ordinary mortals. They reveal, however, his fondness for detail and the extraordinary accuracy with wi every item of expenditure was remembered and recorded. In book bindings, dating from a Virgil of 1491 down to some superb speciment of the present day, the collection is very rich and the tapestries also give a complete history of needle work from the first century, A. D.

lown to the best examples of Gobella work.